

Study, and the vacant land together in terms of anticipated needs for future land use. In other words, look at present land use, relate it to anticipated future population and trends in the use of land that will probably come in the future, then make an estimate of additional land that will be needed for the various land use categories over the next 20 years.

In the Population and Economic Study for Maiden, it was estimated that the population of the planning area as of August, 1968, was: Town, 2,275 persons; Fringe, 1,775 persons; Planning Area total of 4,050 persons. This estimate was based on the actual count of the number of dwelling units taken during the land use survey at that time and a rate of 3.2 persons per dwelling unit in town and 3.55 per dwelling unit in the fringe area (these rates from the 1960 Census for Maiden and Catawba County, respectively). Using the population projections from the Population and Economic Study, it is indicated that the town population should reach 2,904 by 1990 (an increase of 27.6%), and the surrounding fringe area will reach 2,248 by this date (an increase of 26.6%). These projections are modest and such growth could no doubt be accommodated within the town itself in view of the large amount of vacant land there now (see Table 8, General Land Use Summary). It is at this point that other factors must be considered along with population as to future land use requirements.

As is the case with so many areas today, Maiden residents are seeking more room for their homes. In the housing survey data, Table 11, it was shown that residential density within town (the older homes) is about twice that of the residential density in the fringe area (where many of the newer homes are built). This trend is verified by looking at tax maps and other